

Woodstock Historic District Commission
Regular Meeting - Woodstock Town Hall
January 25, 2016, 8:00 p.m.
Minutes

1. Call to Order 8:05 pm by Gail White Usher; Present: Gail White Usher, Lyn Smith, Harold Bishop, Tim Monahan and Alternate Christine Lessig. Public: WA Headmaster Chris Sandford
2. Appointment of alternates – Christine Lessig appointed
2. Review of Minutes: November 30, 2015 – Motion to approve minutes with amendment by Tim Monahan and second by Harold Bishop with correction of item #4 [brick walkway should read brick benches]

4. **Public Hearing**

Woodstock Academy for demolition of barn, 61 Academy Rd, Woodstock, CT
Headmaster Chris Sandford presented WA Application of Appropriateness for Demolition with information, photos and reference to WHDC site visit in summer 2015.

- At annual inspection Woodstock Fire Marshal cited barn as a deficiency & recommended to building inspector that the barn be demolished in the interest of public safety or major structural repairs be made to this building and area around it to be made safe.
- Estimate from Historic Preservation Associates was \$186,00; cost for required work to make it safe and usable.
- Woodstock Building Inspector has completed a site visit.
- WA does not have the financial resources to restore barn therefore they are applying for certificate of appropriateness.
- Plan to complete demolition this spring, 2016 by a licensed contractor who will be responsible for clean up and obtaining proper permits.
- WA will contact neighbors and inform them of plans.

Motion: Motion to close the public hearing by Tim Monahan and second Harold Bishop – Unanimous approved

Discussion: - Lyn Smith shared her experience with a past experience of a demolition application

Motion: Lynn Smith made a motion with Tim Monahan seconded for WHDC to allow the barn to be demolished per applications stipulations:

- All construction material and debris will be removed from the site by a licensed contractor
- This site will be returned to natural state
- Any site improvements need to come before the WHDC with an application for a certificate of appropriateness for approval.
- Site be documented with digital media – and shared with WHDC and Woodstock Historical District.

Unanimous approval of motion

5. Correspondence:
 - Preservation magazine
 - Renewal for Public Trust National Trust for Historic Preservation
6. Public Comment: none
7. Project Consultations: none

8. Old Business

Resident program move to March 2016

Historic District signs - tabled

New member - Discussion

Other: Woodstock Historic Society will present an application for demolition of brick benches for February 2016 meeting

9. New Business

- Town requested WHDC to submit Budget 2016 – Vote at February Meeting
- Open Space Land Acquisition and Preservation Committee is holding a Public Hearing on Wednesday, January 27 for an amendment in appointing the committee. Tim Monahan has offered to step in for Lynn Smith representing WHDC on the commission. They will meet the second Thursday starting in February.
- Other: WHDC Meeting dates changed to third Monday at 7 PM.
- Other: Officers: Tim Chair - Chair, Gail White Usher- Vice Chair, Christine Lessig - Clerk Harold motioned to accept slate with Lynn Smith second - Unanimous approval

10. Adjourn: Harold Bishop moved motion and second by Gail White Usher, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. Unanimous approval

Respectfully submitted, Christine Johnston Lessig, Clerk

These minutes may be published, but the Commission does not approve them until the next meeting.